DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEWED BY H. Meyer DATE 4/21/12
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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Thursday, January 1, 1959

We passed through Potsdam at midnight. The children and dogs were rooted from bed, and we all had champagne with Rebecca Wellington and the train crew. We could not arouse the other passengers. In parts of the East Zone we could see [redacted] mild fireworks celebrations from the windows, but it was all on a subdued scale.

Today was one of the finest climatically I have ever known for this time of year. It was sunny and springlike, so this afternoon we took a long walk in the woods back of Henry F[redacted]asants' house.

The Gaston Coblentzes came to dinner with us. He told the full story of the obsequies of the last Pope and the election of the new one. It was as fine a piece of reporting, full of imagery and color, as could be done. I suggested he make a tape recording of these events in just the way he had recounted them to us and have it published. His wife is a Yugoslav by birth and was only permitted out of the country a few years ago to marry Gaston in New York. They are an engaging couple.

Friday, January 2, 1959

[redacted] He said Dick Sissell has taken over as of the first of the year Frank Wisner's job.

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